



Maneuver Center of Excellence Human Resources Newsletter

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A Note from the Commander, United States Army Armor Center

As the BRAC changes continue at Fort Knox, I'll use my column this week to let you folks know a little about what is changing at Fort Benning, Ga., and the Maneuver Center of Excellence. Many employees at Fort Knox have a decision to make about whether they want to move with the Armor School to Fort Benning.

I also realize the Armor School has thrived at Fort Knox, and that is in large part due to the people who work here. I would not be doing the Maneuver Center of Excellence justice if I did not try to enlist many of you to join us at Fort Benning. After all, from what I have seen I think a lot of you will find you fit in there. The communities surrounding Fort Benning are also filled with warm, friendly people who look forward to meeting the new people from Knox, and there is plenty to do.

From Aug. 25-27, some of the post leaders and I will travel to Fort Benning for a board of directors meeting. This meeting will focus on the continued efforts both posts are making to ensure a smooth transition to the Fort Benning area. The highlight of the meeting will be the establishment of our virtual operating capability as the Maneuver Center of Excellence. This means that until we are physically located at Fort Benning, the two schools will begin consolidating reports and our chains of command into one entity, the Maneuver Center of Excellence, in an effort to streamline our processes and ease the transition of our Armor and Infantry forces.

This is an historic milestone and will see leaders at Benning and Knox determine the future capabilities and requirements of the Maneuver Center of Excellence. I ask all of you to support these changes as we continue to forge forward into the future.

Forge the Thunderbolt!

BG Donald M. Campbell
Commander

A Decision in the Future For Department of the Army Civilians

Mr. Michael Gillette

Ladies and Gentlemen of the United States Army Armor Center and School workforce, a decision looms on the horizon; a decision that has implications for a Nation at war, the Army's Armored force, and to thousands of Soldiers, civilian workers and family members.

In April, we held an series of meetings explaining the Volunteer Process – when and how it will be used to move our workforce to Fort Benning. We continue now with an effort, today, to educate USAARMC/S employees, Soldiers and family members about Fort Benning and its surrounding communities. The task ahead is not a simple one. You must educate yourselves and family to the possibilities that are available at the future Maneuver Center of Excellence and here at future Human Resources Center of Excellence. You must prepare yourselves and family members whatever your final decision is. Information about the Future MCOE will help you.

The Reception Team at Fort Benning has created an excellent website at: <https://www.benning.army.mil/mcoe/index.asp>. It is a comprehensive resource with links leading to every facet of Fort Benning and the surrounding community. Please, explore and see for yourself what a wonderful area it is to live and work.

Pay special attention to the calendar of events on the back page of this document. There are several further excellent opportunities to listen to and question DA's subject matter experts regarding the various programs available to employees staying or going.

Volunteer Process Timeline

Event	Time	Location
Town Hall Meeting; Fort Benning & Community Quality Of Life	19 August 2008	Waybur Theatre, Building 1102 Old Ironsides Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121
Town Hall Meeting Department of Defense National Relocation Program (DNRP) and Permanent Change of Station (PCS) Brief	9 September 2008	Waybur Theatre, Building 1102 Old Ironsides Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121
Outplacement Assistance Brief: Department of Labor Rapid Response Program	28 October 2008	Waybur Theatre, Building 1102 Old Ironsides Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121
Benning Information Fair & Future Knox Employment Opportunity Brief	12-13 November 2008	Waybur Theatre and Leaders Club, Fort Knox, KY 40121
Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) Transition Center Opens	1 December 2008	Fort Knox CPAC, Building 1109, Wing A, 6th Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121-5000
Survey of Interest Letters issued to all employees	15 December 2008	
CPAC Counseling Available to all Employees	1 – 15 January 2009	Fort Knox CPAC, Building 1109, Wing A, 6th Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40121-5000
Employee Decision Point "Do I want to be part of the Volunteer Process"	15 Jan 2009	Decision Point #1
Job Offer Letters mailed	15 March – 15 April 2009	
Employees accept offer	15 April 2009	Decision Point #2

For further information about today's briefing, this newsletter, the MCOE and the USAARMC move visit:

<http://www.knox.army.mil/school/mcoe.asp>

From the Fort Knox CPAC

Ms. Sheree' L. Welch

The Knox CPAC is actively engaged in planning the HR action that will successfully move USAARMC to Fort Benning, GA. The HR action plan includes formal notification procedures, Volunteer Process ground rules, transition & outplacement assistance initiatives and a comprehensive Workforce Briefing Schedule. The briefings will address such issues as the volunteer process, quality of life at Fort Benning, transition assistance for the relocating workforce, and future employment opportunities at Fort Knox and the surrounding communities.

In coordination with the Fort Knox CPAC, the Lincoln Trail Area Development District and One Knox are partnering with Elizabethtown Community and Technical College to develop a decision making tool called "Blueprint for Your Future". This tool will help Armor Center employees and their families make informed decisions regarding their civil service careers. The anticipated launch date of the tool is expected in early to mid October.

The CPAC transition center will open on 1 Dec 08. Center personnel will provide information regarding transition benefits and entitlements, retirement options, and will assist employees with navigating the Army's resume builder.

For additional BRAC information, please visit the CPAC homepage: https://knoxdoim815/portal/CPAC/brac_info.htm.

QUESTION: Will civilians have to pay for the move? Will the government pay for my transportation? Airfare? Gas for my car?

ANSWER: Employees who move under Permanent Change of Station (PCS) with their organization will be reimbursed for travel and transportation expenses in accordance with Joint Travel Regulations (JTR Volume 2, Chapter 5, Part A). Specific guidance will be provided at employee Townhall briefings.

QUESTION: DNRP states I will be paid fair market value for my house based on three assessments. Does this mean how much my property is assessed for tax purposes?

ANSWER: Once in DNRP you can choose the option of GHS and request a Relocation Counselor. The counselor will give you a list of local qualified, professional appraisers who meet Employee Relocation Council qualifications. You will select three appraisers from that list who will then appraise the fair market value of your home. This is the fair market value that you will be paid, not the tax assessment value.

More BRAC HR Questions answered here:

https://knoxdoim815/portal/CPAC/brac_faq.html